

Title I Community Advisory Committee Meeting

December 1, 2014

MCPS Admin Building, Room 14

6:00 to 7:30 PM

Page | 1

Attendees: Heather Davis Schmidt, Sindie Kennedy, Connie Sage, Seena Demmons, Julie Robitaille, Brian Bessette, Wendy Melvin, Tracy Ledyard, Tammy Reschke and Nicole Hensley

Unable to Attend: Amanda Dewello emailed unable to attend, Leslie Gallant emailed will not be able to participate this year, Erica Ramsey was out sick, and David Rott was unable to attend due to PTO at Chief Charlo

Heather welcomed everyone.

Heather explained we will talk about how we allocate Title I funding to Title I schools. Heather explained that how we determine our high school poverty. Originally with free and reduced lunch forms but high school students are less likely to turn in the forms.

Last year, we used the Feeder Pattern but it was still flawed. If we take a straight look at the feeder data from our MCPS K-8 schools, we are not seeing the entire picture because other schools outside of the district feed into the district high schools. We had to look at geocodes based on current enrollment to determine where we anticipate students will attend high school. That worked well but we had a new wrinkle thrown in and that is the Community Eligibility option. The K-8 Title I schools are all eligible to offer free meals to all students in the building.

Heather asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Heather reviewed the commitment for collaborative work. Heather asked for additions or changes. No one offered any.

MCPS K-5 to Middle School Feeder Analysis - it is not complicated to look at out-of-district feeder school. It is complicated to look at the feeder patterns in the district. For instance, Cold Springs feeds to two different middle schools but feeds to one high school. Franklin feeds to all high schools. Heather and Connie worked on the data. It requires creating a lot of pivot tables. The data for Porter only includes the students that are directly certified. Sindie explained the Direct Certification calculation is how we determined we could receive Community Eligibility. Heather explained we have received inconsistent guidance from the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture. The guidance we have received from OPI is that we will have to set all Title I schools at 100% poverty.

All K-8 Title I schools will be at 100% poverty rate next year. Wendy was concerned that this will mean less funding for Franklin and Lowell. Heather indicated that this is true. The funds will be distributed equally based on a per pupil amount. This is how the data will determine the high school poverty levels. The numbers on the printout is probably a little higher than last year. The

Title I Community Advisory Committee Meeting

December 1, 2014

MCPS Admin Building, Room 14

6:00 to 7:30 PM

Page | 2

numbers vary because of the private schools.

Tammy asked how the 100% poverty rate will affect the schools. Heather explained we have always distributed the Title I funding based on bands of poverty. The schools with the greatest amount of F&R students would receive more per pupil amounts. Heather explained there are many benefits for continuing with CEP besides free meals for all students in those buildings. Sindie explained the program is available for three years before we would have to re-assess the data.

Julie asked if the funding could be distributed more evenly in Region 3 since most Title I schools are in Region 3. Heather said no because everyone is 100% poverty. At this point, Heather has no intentions of bringing the K-8 and HS budgets together. We have that option; however, if we do that, the high schools would not receive any Title I funding.

Brian asked if we have to wait until February to know. Heather said they could look at their budget worksheet from last year and take the number of students that are enrolled (100%) and multiple by the per pupil amount. Heather did a rough calculation to determine a rough estimate of the allocation for the K-8 buildings.

The targeting reports have been distributed and generated many questions. The report is pretty much useless because of the 100% poverty rate at Title I K-8 schools. Heather wonders if we should send out targeting reports anymore. Connie will look into whether we are required to send targeting reports or if this has just been done historically.

Heather wants to talk to OPI again. It feels we are comparing apples to oranges. Sindie asked if there are other districts in the state that are going through this too. Heather thinks we are ahead of the game.

There was a question on whether we will be losing any funds this year. Heather explained we will anticipate some funding decreases. We will consider scenarios of reductions.

Julie asked about budgeting for coaches. How has the funding been changed? Heather explained we have two coaches that are being paid by Title I and two that are not. What this has allowed us to do is to cover other expenses at Title I schools and provide more money out in a variety of ways. People have come forward with different requests and received money or what they requested. We are going to look at carryover funds pretty soon for summer and Professional Development (or whichever the buildings choose). Heather has looked at re-allocating funds to buildings.

Both Big Sky and Hellgate High Schools are looking at becoming Schoolwide as far as Title I.

Title I Community Advisory Committee Meeting

December 1, 2014

MCPS Admin Building, Room 14

6:00 to 7:30 PM

P a g e | 3

Schoolwide can use money in a less strict way. In reality the difference is targeted you had to ID most academically at risk students whereas with Schoolwide you have to have more than 40 percent poverty or low income. Schoolwide means 100 percent of students are Title I students. When you look at this, you look at Title I services different and look at how you would serve all. All of our buildings could look at RTI models and see how they are aimed at providing for the more severe. Tracey said that Hellgate has brought together quite a few to work on the Schoolwide. Schoolwide is more fluid than Targeted where you have to have specific student.

CEP does take away stigmatizing kids. All kids can eat free and it does not single out students.

Title I funding is to the district and then to the schools.

Next meeting will be on January 27, 2015 (Tuesday) at 6:00 PM in Room 14 Admin Building